GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3797
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007
DEVELOPMENT OF ICHAMATI RIVER
Chakraborty Shri Ajay

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to implement a programme to develop the river Ichamati in West Bengal including increasing its depth and water carrying capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government is aware that large number of people got affected every year due to recurrent floods in this river; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) The Government of West Bangal prepared a scheme in September, 2005 amounting to Rs.23.59 crore for desilting/dredging of river Ichhamati along the common border between India and Bangladesh for better drainage and flood management for an approximate length of 20 km. from Angrail BSF Bridge to Kalanchi BSF Bridge.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) As the river Ichhamati form the international border between India and Bangladesh, the matter has already been taken up by Government of India with Bangladesh during 36th meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission (JRC) held at Dhaka in September, 2005 to work out the modalities for undertaking desilting/dredeging work. A joint field visit by Ministers of water Resources of both the countries (India and Bangladesh) was also undertaken in September, 2006 to assess situation on the ground.